



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH
WASHINGTON



SECRET

MAY 30 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Honorable
James R. Schlesinger
Chairman, United States
Intelligence Board

SUBJECT: Airborne Reconnaissance Against China

In recent months, there has been an increase in the number and types of airborne reconnaissance missions which have been proposed for collection against China. In part, this increase has been due to the availability of assets released from Southeast Asia.

At this point in our developing relations with China, I feel it would be appropriate to review the general subject of the initiation of new airborne reconnaissance programs against China. Such a review should include intelligence objectives, priorities to be assigned to that intelligence which can be collected by airborne platforms, and the possible political costs of an increased reconnaissance program.

I would be grateful if you would take steps to have an inter-agency assessment made of these issues. It could serve as an input to the 40 Committee, which will be deciding on the scope of our China-directed reconnaissance.

Ray S. Cline

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SECRET

State Dept. review completed

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Action and coordination with DDO

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

~~EWP/PVW~~

[] says that he believes Ray Cline is wrong, i.e., there hasn't been an increase in missions flown ^{proposed} against China (he is looking into the problem).

Do you want Herb Jenne to carry the ball on this?

Paul: Jenne is gathering the facts. If there has been no increase, EWP will call Cline and get him to back off.

*31 May 73 BE-
(DATE)*

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